



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
September 24, 2024
5:30pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

II. ROLL CALL: Councilman Kip Andrews (P), Councilman Sam DiVittorio (A), Councilwoman Carlee White Gonzales (P), Councilman Steve Leon (P), Councilman Devon Wells (A).

III. PUBLIC HEARING:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. An ordinance to rezone all of the property in the city limits within the following boundaries which is currently zoned RS11-A to RS-11: Crapanzano Road (west side), US Hwy 190 West (north side), Interstate 55 (east side), and Stein Road (south side).

Mayor Panepinto, explained the ordinance.

No Public Comment

NEW BUSINESS

1. An ordinance to increase fees for leases and services at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport.

Councilman Wells entered the meeting.

Councilman DiVittorio entered the meeting

Charles Borchers, Director of Administration explained the ordinance.

City Attorney Andre Coudrain, stated the effective date was proposed to be July 1, 2024.

Christopher Goodman, 861 Industrial Park, asked questions about the rate changes and expressed his concerns about the fees. He ask that the item be tabled and that the city do an audit.

Councilman Wells called up, Mr. Wainwright a member of the airport board.

Mr. Wainwright answered questions about the airport.



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
September 24, 2024**

6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing

I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

II. ROLL CALL: Councilman Kip Andrews (P), Councilman Sam DiVittorio (P), Councilwoman Carlee White Gonzales (P), Councilman Steve Leon (P), Councilman Devon Wells (P).

III. PRAYER : Councilman Kip Andrews

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All veterans and active military, please render the proper salute.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of August 27, 2024 Meeting

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to approve the the Minutes of August 27, 2024 meeting.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 5-0

VI. PRESENTATION: Karen Wallsten- Housing Enhancement Committee

Karen Wallsten, gave an update from the committee

Councilman Andrews, acknowledged an email from Attorney Tom Hogan and the email for the housing committee.

Stan Dameron, Housing Mortgage Authority was present to answer questions.

VII. FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Final adoption of an ordinance to rezone all of the property in the city limits within the following boundaries which is currently zoned RS11-A to RS-11: Crapanzano Road (west side), US Hwy 190 West (north side), Interstate 55 (east side), and Stein Road (south side).

Mayor Panepinto, explained the ordinance

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman DiVittorio** to adopt an ordinance to rezone all of the property in the city limits within the following boundaries which is currently zoned RS11-A to RS-11: Crapanzano Road (west side), US Hwy 190 West (north side), Interstate 55 (east side), and Stein Road (south side).

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 5-0

NEW BUSINESS

1. Final adoption of an ordinance to increase fees for leases and services at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport. (Mayor Panepinto)

There was a motion by **Councilman DiVittorio** and second by **Councilman Wells** to table an ordinance to increase fees for leases and services at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport pending meeting of Airport Advisory Board.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (N), Councilman Leon (N), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion to table 3-2.

VIII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE: OLD BUSINESS

1. Introduction of an ordinance of the Hammond City Council amending the Official Zoning Map for the following addresses along Hewitt Road:

- 515 Hewitt Road, amending from MX-N and MX-C to MX-C.
- 0.19 Acres in rear of 515 Hewitt Road, amending from RS11.A to MX-C.
- 515 ½ Hewitt Road, amending from MX-N and MX-C to MX C.
- 513 Hewitt Road, amending from MX-N and MX-C to MX-C.
- 411 Hewitt Road, amending from MX-N and MX- C to MX-C. (Mayor Panepinto)

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Andrews** to introduce the ordinance with all items being rezoned MX-N.

- 515 Hewitt Road, amending from MX-N and MX-C to MX-N.
- 0.19 Acres in rear of 515 Hewitt Road, amending from RS11.A to MX-N.
- 515 ½ Hewitt Road, amending from MX-N and MX-C to MX N.
- 513 Hewitt Road, amending from MX-N and MX-C to MX-N.

411 Hewitt Road, amending from MX-N and MX- C to MX-N.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 5-0

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Introduction of an ordinance to increase the millage rate(s), but not in excess of the prior year's maximum rate(s), on all taxable property shown on the official assessment roll for the year 2024, and when collected, the revenue from said taxes shall be used only for the specific purposes for which said taxes have been levied. Said millage rates are"

	Adjusted Rate	2024 Levy
General Alimony , General Funds (5207001)	8.730 Mills	9.040 Mills
Fire/Police (5207002)	9.650 Mills	10.000 Mills
Public Works	1.930 Mills	2.000 Mills
Total	20.31 Mills	21.040 Mills (Mayor Panepinto)

Charles Borchers explained the ordinance.

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilwoman Gonzales** to introduce an ordinance to increase the millage rate(s), but not in excess of the prior year's maximum rate(s), on all taxable property shown on the official assessment roll for the year 2024, and when collected, the revenue from said taxes shall be used only for the specific purposes for which said taxes have been levied. Said millage rates are"

	Adjusted Rate	2024 Levy
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Fire/Police (5207002)	9.650 Mills	10.000 Mills
Public Works	1.930 Mills	2.000 Mills
Total	20.31 Mills	21.040 Mills

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 5-0

2. Introduction of an ordinance requiring quarterly financial reports be provided to the City Council at the second City Council meeting following the end of each quarter.

Councilman Andrews, explained the ordinance.

Councilman Leon, stated he did not agree with or support the ordinance. This is a waste of time and trying to micromanage the administration.

Councilman DiVittorio, thinks it's a good idea.

Councilman Wells, stated this is needed and they should know the amount of money in the accounts.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked how difficult would it be to provide them with the information.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Wells to introduce an ordinance requiring quarterly financial reports be provided to the City Council at the second City Council meeting following the end of each quarter.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (N), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 4-1

IX. OTHER BUSINESS- DISCUSSION

City Council to continue the discussion on how to move forward with opening an investigation into the building department office regarding any and all matters.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that he is working on putting something together.

Cindy Grego, 1108 Rue Chalet, raised issues at 1100 Rue Chalet, she asked that the property be inspected.

Jill Dangerfield, 1000 Rue De La Paix stated her concerns and wanted to know what is going on and what the city is going to do about it.

Mike Barnholdt, stated they need to be able to trust city officials. He thinks there is two kitchens in the house. He stated the secrecy needs to stop.

Councilman DiVittorio, ask to have that information verified that work was done.

Michelle Kendall, asked about plans for the building department.

Mayor, stated that Dana Brown is under contract and Robert Morgan is under contract and they are currently interviewing for grants.

X. RESOLUTIONS

1. A resolution to approve Shukar LLC located at 1200 S Morrison Blvd. Hammond, LA 70403 to obtain an alcohol permit for a Convenience Store. The owner is Shukar LLC.

Mayor Panepinto, stated this is a change of ownership.

Mr. Bedi, the owner was present, he explained his business.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Wells to approve Shukar LLC located at 1200 S Morrison Blvd. Hammond, LA 70403 to obtain an alcohol permit for a Convenience Store. The owner is Shukar LLC.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 5-0

2. A resolution of the Hammond City Council regarding Postal Delivery. (Councilman Wells)

Councilman Wells Called Ms. Pam Haynes up.

Pam Haynes, asked about the status pf the postal delivery issue and asked for an update.

Andre Coudrain, City Attorney, provided an update on what he has done.

Pam Haynes, stated they need results, her community is older and they don't need to go to the road to get they mail. They need help.

Councilman Wells, called up Ms. Wagner-Jones

Ms Victoria Wagner Jones, stated she was 82 and this has been an incovience for her to go out to the road to get her mail.

Shaun Corbin, 114 Maryland St, she stated that packages can be brought to the door by the postal service but the mail can't. She stated that if there is a dog issue, how can they bring packages to the door and drop them off but not put the mail in the box on the house.

Councilman Wells stated that the dog was on Carolina St., He stated another City Councilman had the same issue and they passed an ordinance that all dogs are to be on a leash. He expressed his concern and regarding contacting the post office. He stated someone at the post office told one of his contituents that they are doing this throughout the whole city. If that is the case there's nothing he can say, but he would like to know if anyone else is getting these notices like District 3. He also expressed a concern about the people calling out their address because of the drug problem in the communities.

Councilman DiVittorio, spoke about the leash law. He asked Charles Borchers to send the leash law ordinance to Hammond Police Department.

Councilman Wells stated they received two letters from the postal service and they are being forced to get a mailbox and he wants to see everyone treated the same.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to approve a resolution of the Hammond City Council regarding Postal Delivery.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 5-0

3. A resolution 1) accepting an \$8,800 grant from the Healthy Communities Grant Program to purchase trash can liners and cleanup supplies to reduce litter in Hammond; 2) approving a 15% in-kind match in volunteer hours; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

Charles Borchers, explained the item. He stated they applied several months back and were awarded the grant. There is no cash match the matche comes from volunteers with Keep Hammond Beautiful.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilwoman Gonzales 1) accepting an \$8,800 grant from the Healthy Communities Grant Program to purchase trash can liners and cleanup

supplies to reduce litter in Hammond; 2) approving a 15% in-kind match in volunteer hours; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent), Motion Approved 4-0

4. A resolution 1) accepting a \$7,200 grant from the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Beautification Grant Program for improvements to Morrison Alley; 2) approving a 15% in-kind match in volunteer hours; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

Charles Borchers, explained the item and stated this was similar to the previous one it's the same funder and there is no cash match, it's an inkind volunteer match.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews 1) accepting a \$7,200 grant from the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Beautification Grant Program for improvements to Morrison Alley; 2) approving a 15% in-kind match in volunteer hours; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent), Motion Approved 4-0

5. A resolution 1) accepting a grant of 100 trees from the Apache Corporation Tree Grant Program for an annual Louisiana Arbor Day tree giveaway January 17, 2025; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman DiVittorio 1) accepting a grant of 100 trees from the Apache Corporation Tree Grant Program for an annual Louisiana Arbor Day tree giveaway January 17, 2025; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent), Motion Approved 4-0

6. A resolution to ratify bids for "The Pavillion" and to award a contract in the amount of \$774,900 to the lowest responsible bidder, Kelly Construction Group.

Tom Pistorius, architect of record, 109 ½ W Thomas St, he stated they had a bid opening in the chamber on September 6 and they had 10 bidders that showed up and submitted bides . The lowest responsible bidder was Kelly Construction Group for \$774,900 and it is within budget. . He recommended they be awarded the bid.

Councilman Kip Andrews stated that he received an email from Mr. Tom Hogan and he asked that it be a part of the record.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to ratify bids for "The Pavillion" and to award a contract in the amount of \$774,900 to the lowest responsible bidder, Kelly Construction Group.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 5-0

7. A resolution to approve the Mayor to enter into contract with Pointer Smith Contracting, for Railroad Track Repairs in the amount of \$54,650.00. (Mayor Panepinto)

Mayor Panepinto, state this was the contract to repair the rail spur out by the airport and he explained the item.

Councilman Wells asked about getting the tracks fixed at the Holly St crossing.

Mayor stated he would look into it.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to approve the Mayor to enter into contract with Pointer Smith Contracting, for Railroad Track Repairs in the amount of \$54,650.00.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 5-0

8. A resolution 1) accepting \$1,140,273 in Federal Aviation Administration grant funds for "Terminal Apron Joint Reseal and Taxiway A and E Point Repairs" at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

Charles Borchers, explained the item and that there is no cost to the city. He also stated that this items as well as item 9 are all related.

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Leon** 1) accepting \$1,140,273 in Federal Aviation Administration grant funds for "Terminal Apron Joint Reseal and Taxiway A and E Point Repairs" at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 5-0

9. A resolution 1) accepting \$115,083 in Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development grant funds for "Terminal Apron Joint Reseal and Taxiway A and E Point Repairs" at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilwoman Gonzales** 1) accepting \$115,083 in Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development grant funds for "Terminal Apron

Joint Reseal and Taxiway A and E Point Repairs" at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 5-0

10. A resolution ratifying bids for "Terminal Apron Joint Reseal and Taxiway A and E Point Repairs" at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport and authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract in the amount of \$1,092,080 with the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, Byron E. Talbot Contractor Inc.

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilman Wells** ratifying bids for "Terminal Apron Joint Reseal and Taxiway A and E Point Repairs" at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport and authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract in the amount of \$1,092,080 with the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, Byron E. Talbot Contractor Inc.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 5-0

11. A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an amendment in the amount of \$158,276 to Work Authorization 17 with design engineer Michael Baker International for construction support services for "Terminal Apron Joint Reseal and Taxiway A and E Point Repairs."

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Wells** authorizing the Mayor to execute an amendment in the amount of \$158,276 to Work Authorization 17 with design engineer Michael Baker International for construction support services for "Terminal Apron Joint Reseal and Taxiway A and E Point Repairs

VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 5-0

XI. REPORTS:

Mayor: The MIA/POW event in Cate Square was a success.

Council:

Councilman Wells, called up Ms. Betty Robinson

Ms. Robinson 634 S. Morrison Blvd, stated she was concerned with a document she was ask to sign for the recreation department.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the dog ordinance and that it be sent to Hammond Police Department.

Councilwoman Gonzales, mentioned Keep Hammond Beautiful cleanup in Zemmurrey park on Sunday from 5:00pm to 7:00pm

XII. ADJOURN

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Andrews** to adjourn. All members were in favor and the meeting was adjourned. 5-0 to adjourn

CERTIFICATION OF CLERK

I LISA COCKERHAM, CLERK OF COUNCIL DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVEAND FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECITATION OF THE BUSINESS TRANSACTED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD September 24,

2024

BEING 5 PAGES IN LENGTH

LISA COCKERHAM

HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK

PRESIDENT, KIP ANDREWS

HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL